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FREE INDIA

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NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

Madurai University to Introduce New Scheme

Prof. S. V. CHITTIBABU,
Vice-Chancellor, Madurai University

In her inaugural address to the Vice-Chancellors' Conference held in New Delhi on 30th September, 1975, Prime Minister, Shrimathi Indira Gandhi, had this to say: "I welcome the emphasis laid on non-formal education, on enabling youths and all the people to educate themselves and obtain degrees, if necessary, through correspondence courses".

Prof. Nurul Hasan, Union Minister for Education and Social Welfare and Culture, has time and again been unequivocally stressing the need for the adoption of non-formal techniques of imparting education to those who have been denied admission to full-time institutions of higher education with their limited number of seats or who are working people with no time to attend such institutions.

NEW CONCEPTS

Viewed against the background of the clarion call of our Prime Minister for democratisation of education and the most welcome proposal of our Union Minister for Education for the expansion and diversification of correspondence courses with the aid of mass media and a network of study centres on what is called the 'open' pattern, it is but appropriate that existing universities should shed their conservative and conventional outlook and venture to try out innovative programmes of non-formal and continuing education, if they are to prove their mettle as potential agents of social change. The UNESCO report on the International Commission on the development of education, 1972, highlights the dimensions of the surging wave of changes that has entered the educational scene in both developed and developing countries over the past ten years with varying degrees of success. These changes all aim at devising more effective and flexible forms of education that can attract into educational circuits such sections of the population as have been usually kept out from them by constraints of traditionalism and formalism. We hear of polyvalent classes, multivalent schools, transition courses, workers' universities, open universities, modular scheduling, free studies etc. which imply the formulation of new concepts in the organisation and structure of knowledge, a reappraisal of the authoritarian transmission of learning in conventional institutions and a quest for alternatives.

AVOID PAST TRENDS

But in seeking ways and means to fulfil this need we must avoid basing our strategies on extrapolation of past trends. On the contrary we must raise our sights to make an up-to-date concrete study of the educational needs of individuals as well as of groups, in relation to such factors as employment, agricultural growth, industrial productivity, conditions of life and work, social changes, individual aspirations, availability of mass communication media etc.

No longer should strategies be hidebound by one single medium, one form of institution or one so-called "systemic" structure. They should be polyvalent and capable of exploring new pathways for the future. But then, while we embark upon the task of developing and reforming educational institutions and methods, we must not brush aside the means and techniques in the world of today which give us a foot-hold for

(Contd. on page 7)

Words To Remember

Addressing the AICC session at Gauhati, the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi said there had been no indication so far of any change in the attitude of the opposition parties.

The Congress had extended the hand of friendship to them many times and it was for them to show whether they had changed their attitude, but they continued to criticise whatever the Government did.

Suggestions for a dialogue with the opposition parties were being made. But what was their attitude ?......The Opposition had to decide on whether to cooperate on these (basic things like strengthening of democracy, socialism and secularism) or to continue working for the destruction of these. If they had proved that their attitudes had changed, "a new way could be found." But there had been no indication of that so far.

Certain external forces wanted a Government which would follow their dictates, but the attempt to pressurise India would only have a reverse effect.

Democracy did not mean only elections and the press. It meant that the people's voice should be heard. Elections were only an instrument in democracy.

"I love democracy but I love the nation's survival more." Government had hoped that the medicine of emergency would have its effect. It never wanted that the opposition should not oppose the Government. The Congress had tolerated their abuses in the past and would continue to do so. But the question was whether the opposition would give up the path of violence. "We had hoped for a change in their attitude."

How India maintained its independence was its own business. Who had helped us in our freedom struggle?

There were some in the country who "tell us what should we do in which state. But I want to tell them that their advice is not wanted, who is good or bad in our party is for us to decide."

"I cannot accept the proposition that they will cooperate with me but not others in my party."

External interference was of various types. One was to exert pressure through propaganda but there were other methods, of which there was danger particularly in N. E. region.

THUS SPAKE

THE MAHATMA

There is one thing in me, and that is that I love to see the bright side of things and not the seamy side, and so I can derive comfort and inspiration from any great book of any great religion.

ASOKA SCENTED BETELNUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Jan. 2, 1977

THE NEW YEAR

The beginning of 1970 saw the end of the corrupt DMK regime in Tamil Nadu.

The President's rule toned up the administration. Emergency brought about industrial peace and discipline. As a result production improved in all sectors.

Steps were taken to implement the P. M.'s 20 point programme in right earnest. The new prosperity started percolating to rural areas.

Speedy relief rendered to the flood victims of Madras city revealed the extraordinary capacity of the government to meet natural calamities.

The formation of Southern food zone ensured adequate supplies of foodgrains.

How are the prospects for 1977 ?

Gradual rise in prices of essential commodities has hit the middle and working class people.

No effective solution is in sight to solve the unemployment problem.

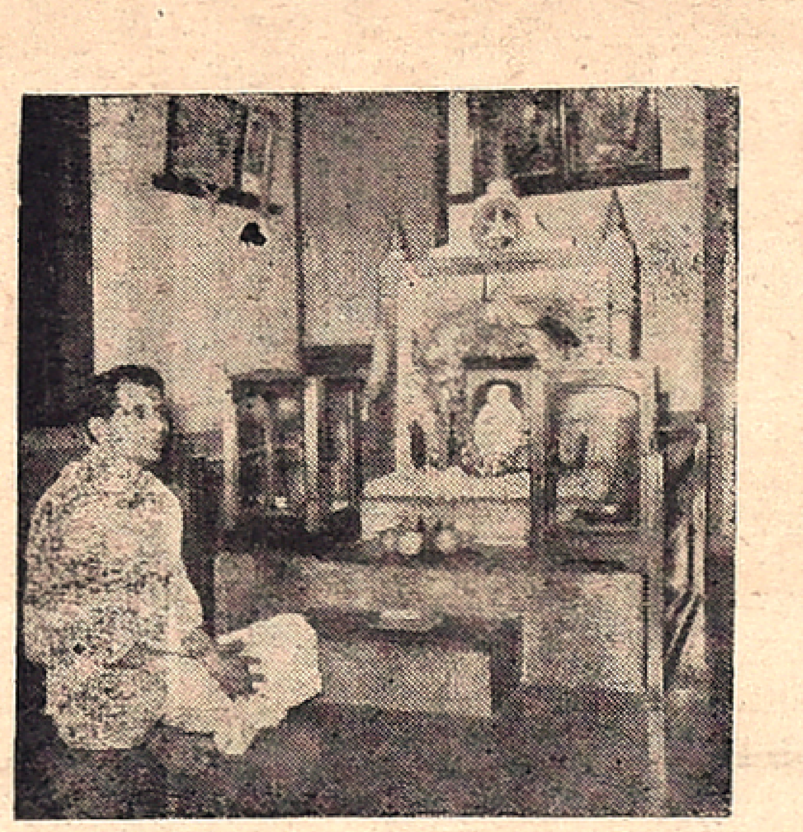
Only full employment can increase the purchasing power of the people—in turn encouraging further production.

If 1977 can bring some relief in these two aspects, we will be having something to be happy about.

Swami Kesavaiahji on Bhakthi Yoga

SRI Swami Kesavaiahji, the Apostle of Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi, Founder-President of Sri Sai Baba Bhaktha Samajam, Shenoynagar, and the sage who is always and fully absorbed in the meditation and worship of Sri Sai Baba, and in diffusing the great mission of Sri Sai Baba to the people with his seat at 'Sai Nilayam', Shenoynagar, Madras, was pleased to highlight the glory of Bhakthi Yoga as the only and easy way which can afford happiness and peace to the mankind in this tormented world.

Bhakthimarga (the path of Bhakthi) is the only way. Desires of man are unlimited as may be seen for instance from his travels to the Moon and his quest to reach the other planets also and there is always absence of contentment, and so there is no peace. Without embarking on overambitious things, one can solve his problems through meditation of God. There is no salvation without devotion to God. The lives of great Bhakthas like Bhaktha Thukaram, Dhruva, Bhaktha Prahalada can be taken as examples and guidance. Through rigorous discipline from mundane pleasures, by observing a strict code of conduct, by being virtuous and following the path of devotion, one can attain Divine Grace and eternal happiness. There is no need for one to renounce his family and go to some forest or mountain to do penance. By firmly having the belief in the existence of God, and having implicit faith in the mercy of God one can attain a unique position in life by carrying out the duties for which he is responsible, and more than anything by realising that service to man is service to God. One should not forget the fact that Mahatma Gandhi realised his mission by virtue of his righteous life and through Divine Grace by keeping Bhagavad Gita always in his hand submitting to its philosophy. Through the worship of God, one can achieve peace and happiness. If one realises this, it is no wonder in his achieving his ideals, besides peace and prosperity.



Man experiences joys and sorrows in the present birth as a result of his actions in his previous births. This is the essence of the Karma theory. This controls the entire creation. Further, egoism may also bring in some sufferings. However great one may be, he has to experience the results of his past actions. This may appear strange, but is a fact. There is an interesting passage in the Mahabharatha which illustrates this point. One day accompanied by Sri Krishna and others, the Pandavas approached Bhishma who was lying on the bed of arrows. Bhishma made them sit and told them, as tears were rolling in his eyes. "You have undergone several sorrows though you are leading a life of righteousness. This is very strange. Though you are endowed with prowess and though you have the blessings of Lord Krishna, you could not escape from the sorrows. No one knows what God desires to do. Even the great and men of letters succumb to His whims. That being the case, how can an ordinary man escape from the Karmabhala?" Is this not enough to show that no one can escape from his past deeds, however righteous and great he may be?

THE REMEDY

There is remedy. But it is possible to some extent only. Egoism will disappear if man feels that everything is ordained by God. Then we can try to change the course of Karma. But, for this God's Grace is a must. Spotless devotion is essential. There is nothing impossible for a true devotee. Sri Sai Baba declared as follows : "Nothing is impossible for those who have abiding faith in the Almighty. There is nothing superior to devotion (Bhakti). Rama, the incarnation of Lord Vishnu, has had to build a causeway across the sea to reach Lanka. But his true devotee Hanuman has cros-

(Contd. on page 7)

"FREE INDIA"

Wishes Its

Readers

A Happy And

Prosperous

NEW YEAR

New Year Message

By SWAMI KESAVAIAHJI

At the outset, I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year !

The year 1976 saw us face many challenges.

Last month there was a cyclonic storm which had a devastating effect on the city and suburbs. And the people were severely affected.

Sri Mohanlal Sukhadia, Governor of Tamil Nadu, with the assistance of his able and energetic Advisers Mr. Subrahmaniam and Mr. Dave and the Chief Secretary Mr. Karthikeyan did his best to give solace and comfort to the suffering multitude.

Man is always optimistic. It is only this hope that makes him not only cheerful but also gives him sufficient courage and strength to face hardships in life. Life is a bundle of joys and sorrows. In joyous moments, man generally feels elated of his achievements; but he remembers and looks to the Almighty only when he is beset with sorrows. The Seers and the Sages of our great country showed by their own lives that complete surrender to God brings in peace and happiness to man. Life without peace is like flower without fragrance. One should, therefore, try his best to secure peace, and this is possible only through pure devotion to God.

Look at the celebrated Bhaktas of our country who had demonstrated by their experiences that the path of devotion 'Bhakthi' is superior to other paths including those of KARMA and JNANA. Bhakti provides the easiest access and safe means to eternal bliss, and abiding faith in God is a must.

In this connection, let us remember the great teachings of Sri Sai Baba, the saviour of mankind who preached that service to man is service to the Almighty. Let us also be loyal to our Government and discharge our duties wholeheartedly. Let us pray and hope that the NEW YEAR will usher in happiness and prosperity to the entire mankind.

—Om Shanthi !

Beggars Under The Greenwood Trees

V. PARANJOTHI

"God bless your children, Sir; give me five paise," mutters an old maimed woman.

A few yards away from her, wriggles a middle aged man, stretching out his ulcerated palms. He beseeches the passer-by "I am crippled; I cannot work, Sir."

'No eye-sight; Bhagwan will save you; give me alms, Sir"—this is a groan of a stone blind. His voice is coarse. The emaciated look really invokes the pity of the office-goers and pedestrians.

This is a common scene one comes across on Pay Day near the Western Gate of the Fort St. George, the seat of Tamil Nadu Government Secretariat. Pay Day is a hey day for the beggars. They flock to this area on the first of every month. Over a hundred beggars sit in long queues on both sides of the pathway leading to the Fort Electric Train Station and narrate the tale of their woes in their pre-rehearsed language. Some wail and a few exhibit the leprous woud in toes and palms to propitiate the public. Congregation of beggars in places like temples, hotels, railwaystations, bus stops, tourist spots and dharmashalas in metropolitan cities is no rare phenomenon. Probably, as sociologists would call it, this may be a sickly symptom of social disharmony in Indian Society.

DUTY

Begging was one of the five duties–pancha mahayagna–of the Grahastha. Housewives delighted in giving alms to the quack or mendicant. Indian housewives' inherent hospitality is not drained away by the price spiral and food scarcity. But they are allergic to give alms to able-bodied men and women, even children. Instead, 'Crow' is a daily guest every morning in the houses of many orthodox families in Tamil Nadu. Before the family members go for morning meal, crows are offered rice and sugar.

Begging population is larger in big cities like Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The latest estimate of beggars in India indicates that not less than eight lakhs of beggars, including mendicants and saffron-clad sadhus roaming about in the guise of medical quacks and with sacerdotal sanction in rural areas, wander all over India.

PROFESSION

To-day, begging is a profession. Able-bodied men and women including urchins itch their palms by receiving coins from others. Abject poverty, physical handicap like blindness, leprosy and deformity, desertion by family heads lead to vagrancy and incurable diseases as well as displacement of employment are major contributory factors for high begging rate in India.

A recent survey in Madras City reports that 17 per cent of the beggars are children below ten years and young persons constitute 10 per cent, while 40 percent of the beggars are middle-aged ranging from 30 to 50. It is also found that 60 per cent of them are able-bodied with well-nourshied physique to strain and gain employment. 50 per cent of them in Madras City will disappear from the streets if stringent legal measure like the Act in Haryana is strictly enforced.

NUISANCE

Normally a beggar earns not less than two rupee a day. This amounts to the daily wage of an ordinary woman in the rich grain field area of the Tanjore district in Tamil Nadu (Before minimum wages order came into force under President's Rule.) Nearly Rs 40 lakhs are given by the public in Madras City alone to the beggars.

The beggar nuisance in Madras is intriguing and the public are forced to give some coins to avoid them. The whole family goes begging in Parrys' Corner-N.S.C. Bose Road-the main shopping and commercial centre. The father is lame; his wife is well-built and the child follows them.

The beggar families roam during the day in City areas like Mylapore, Egmore and Central Railway Stations and moffusil bus-stands. Most of them congregate after dust at the eastern rear of the St. George Fort Electric Train Station Two rows of tall trees with sprawling greeny branches stand majestically giving cool shade and protection from drizzle and scorching sun. The sturdy iron corridors rising from the Fort St. George area are yet another bower for the resting beggars.

FAMILY LIFE

The small children stay back under the trees and the women beggars return to this place after their day long sojourn in the city. The women-lunch-carriers also reach this place exactly at 3-00 P.M. under the pretext of resting for a while after their visits to various offices to deliver the mid-day-meal to the office-goers. They sell the crumbs to the beggars collected from various lunch-boxes. Most of the beggars joyfully use the lunch boxes of the "absentee owners". No wonder that the incidence of leprosy has not recorded any downward trend in India!

The general marital pattern of the beggars adheres to the monogamic marital system in India. Caste is no criterion; death of bread winner is often the cause of a woman beggar marrying a male. No beggar has more than one living spouse. The blind man or woman prefers a company to accompany while begging and to look after his or her comforts during nights. The children are hale and healthy. They are sent out to Railway stations to earn their 'share' by singing 'broken' songs in their tender voice. Their tongues often get parched, and some boys use their belleys as the 'Taplas' to sing a chorus! The standing city buses opposite the Madras General Hospital are often besieged by child beggars whose cringing and cryptic voice of their reported poverty and despondency invoke the silently sitting passenger to spare a few coins. The children join their parents at six in the evenings under the Green Wood Trees.

Way Out

The recently completed ultra-modern St. Saviour's Church in London has a deluxe apartment building beside it. It has been built there for a good reason: income from this apartment complex provides funds for the maintenance of the church. Among the first tenants was an Arab sheikh.

Schweitzer's Clinic Gets A New Look

Albert Schweitzer's jungle hospital in Lambarene, Gabon, was on the brink of closure for lack of medical staff and cash. Conditions bore no more than a coincidental resemblance to modern medical care.

Then Professor Hermann Mai, 74, a children's doctor from Munster, Federal Republic of Germany, decided to lend a hand. He flew out to West Africa early this year and embarked on an ambitious modernisation programme. Donations totalling 225,000 deutschmarks raised in the Federal Republic and Switzerland enabled Professor Mai to put the finishing touches this autumn to a new hospital wing for post-operative care of Lambarene patients.

Before deciding to devote his remaining years to Lambarene the ageing professor spent several months on the spot. 'I felt personally responsible for ensuring that Albert Schweitzer's work was continued,' he noted.

EMPTY CLINIC

When Professor Mai arrived at Lambarene the children's clinic was empty and accident victims waited in vain for immediate assistance, so grave was the shortage of both European and African staff.

The hospital is now full to overflowing. Further extensions are planned. Three doctors have been joined by Professor Mai's wife, a physiotherapist who supervises post-operative care. This year the anniversary of Albert Schweitzer's death was celebrated by more than 300 Gabonese staff to music and the sound of jungle drums.

The modernisation programme will take another three years but a new Lambarene will then be able to look forward to a secure future. The Gabon government is to ensure financial backing for the project, but further donations from Europe are still urgently needed. In the Federal Republic of Germany a charity has been set up to raise funds for the Albert Schweitzer hospital.

MEDICAL DUTIES

Before long Professor Mai will be able to hand over the new hospital to younger men and women. Their medical duties will differ little from those shouldered by the legendary Schweitzer himself.

Patients will continue to be brought in by the whole family. Dozens of women will prepare food in the communal kitchens. The fare ranges from elephant steak to monkey meat and snake stew. Seven years ago Professor Mai brought with him several hundred fish-hooks and taught local people how to add protein to their diet by fishing in the Ogowe river. They readily ate the fish but took some time to accustom themselves to the idea of fishing for food.

Children are often brought in for treatment with parasites, pneumonia, measles and polio. Babies are often suffering from tetanus. When they leave hospital the Ogowe boatmen often sing for joy or in sorrow. Albert Schweitzer set up his medical mission in this picturesque corner of Africa in 1913. Africans and Europeans have now joined forces to ensure that his life's work is continued and the Lambarene jungle hospital continues to provide medical care and attention.

—Albert Grosser

FUN AND LAUGHTER

SLY CHILD

A little girl had to write a letter of apology for forgetting the birthday of a young friend.

"Dear Alice," she wrote. "I'm sorry I forgot your birthday. I have no excuse, and it will serve me right if you forget mine next Wednesday."

* * *

SILENT KIDS

"Have you seen the new noiceless baby carriages?" asked the salesman.

"Yes," replied the lady, "but I don't think much of them Noiceless babies would be more to the point."

* * *

ADVANCE JUSTIFIED

Little Jimmie: "Say, mother, how much am I worth?"

Mother: "Why, you're worth a million pounds to me Jimmie."

Jimmie: "Can't you advance me a penny on it, mother?"

* * *

NOT ENOUGH

"Darling, you've made me the happiest man on earth!"

"Only on earth? The last man I was engaged to said he was in his seventh heaven."

* * *

A GOOD EXCUSE

"Jimmy, how old is your sister?"

"Twenty five."

"But she told me she was just twenty."

"Well, she was before she learned to count."

* * *

"Was my husband intoxicated when he came home last night, Mary?"

"I didn't notice anything, ma'am. He only asked for a mirror to see who he was."

* * *

"Rheumatism, said the doctor, "causes a man to imagine that his joints are much larger than they actually are."

"I know," explained Mrs. Smith. "Our butcher has it."

* * *

FAMILIAR COUNTRY

A person who had become popular in the slums of the great city, because he was so sporty and breezy, saw one of his foster friends selling fruit from a barrow in the West End. The person naturally spoke to the man, who did not seem to recognise him at first. "Now, where the hell have I seen you before?" he demanded.

"Dunno," rejoined the person, with a laugh. "What part of Hell do you come from?"

L.G

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FOREMOST FOOD FLAVOURING AND PRESERVATIVE.

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IT IS AWFUL

At the breakfast table the other morning he was relating to his wife an incident that occured at the club the previous night. The chairman offered a silk hat to the member who could stand up and truthfully say that during his married life he had never kissed any woman but his own wife.

'And, would you believe it, Mary, no one stood up."

"George," his wife said, "why didn't you stand up.?"

"Well," he replied, "I was going to, but I look awful in a silk hat."

* * *

POSTAL ADS

Some suggested up-to-date advertisements for the consideration of the Postmaster-General:—

"Use more stamps."

"A little wire goes a long way. Try one."

"Say it with Postal Orders."

"National Savings Certificates. A certificate a day keeps the bailiffs away."

"Warmer than a blanket—A Savings Bank book."

"Are you an O.B.E., a Mason, or a Knight? All good 'order' but not equal to our Postal Orders."

* * *

ASKING FOR MORE

He was rather shy and it was the first time that he had dared to bring her flowers.

She, delighted, threw her arms about his neck and kissed him. He suddenly grabbed his hat and started out of the door.

"Oh!" she said. "I am sorry if I have offended you."

"Oh, that's not it," he called back. "I'm going after more flowers."

* * *

FATHER TIME

"What Party in Parliament has done most to raise the working man?" demanded an M.P. of a large audience.

"The party that made the alarm clock, guv'ner," cried a clever heckler.

* * *

"He wants to be cremated when he dies."

"Well, there's nothing like a hot finish."

* * *

SHOCK

Motorist; "I'm very sorry I ran over your hen. Would a dollar make it right?"

Farmer: "Well, better make it two, I have a rooster that was mighty fond of that hen and the shock might kill him, too."

* * *

HER ADVICE

Son: "Say, mum, can I go out into the street? Teacher says there's going to be an eclipse of the sun."

Mother: "Yes, dear, but don't get too close."

TOO BAD

"Look here," said an indignant lady at the Post Office counter. "your mistakes are getting too bad for anything. My husband has gone away to Birmingham on business, and only this morning I got a letter from him with a Brighton postmark. It's really time you were more careful."

* * *

LOVE IS BLIND

"Darling, I've lost some money on the racecourse this afternoon," exclaimed Percival, coming into the room and dutifully kissing his wife.

"How serious Percy dear I hope you told the police at once."

"Oh—yes, my dear."

* * *

DARK

Fried: "How about a date?"

Chris: "Okay."

Fred: "What shall we do?"

Chris: "How about a movie"?

Fred: "All right. Which one?"

Chris: "I don't care. One's as dark as another."

* * *

ONE AT A TIME

Hubby (anxiously): "But if you buy a costly fur coat how are we ever goning to pay for it?"

Wife: "Now, Tom, don't let's talk about two things at once. Let's talk about the coat."

* * *

Father: "I had a note from your teacher to-day."

"O.K. dad, I won't tell mother."

* * *

"Does a Quaker ever take off his hat to anyone?" asked the small boy of the hatter.

"No," was the reply.

"Then how does he get his hair cut?" asked the boy triumphantly.

* * *

CLEVER DOG

"Say, is your dog clever?"

"I'll say he is! When I say, "Are you coming or aren't you?" he either comes or he doesn't."

* * *

NOT HEALTHY

"Well my man, what's the matter with you?" asked the doctor.

"It's like this, sir. I eats welll, I drinks well and I sleeps well, but when I sees a job of work I goes all of a shiver."

* * *

NOT DEAD

"You know my uncle who was so sick?"

"Yes."

"Now the authorities won't let me bury him."

"Why not?"

"Because he ain't dead."

* * *

A WHOLE TIME JOB

A man on the dole was asked what he did all the day.

"Sometimes I sits and thinks and other times I just sits."

MYSTERY

Women are just as big a mystery to-day as they ever were. If you look at a goo-looking woman in the street she is insulted. If you don't look at her she is disappointed.

* * *

Young mother (proudly). "See! Baby is learning to walk!"

Friend: "Oh! do you think it really worth while to teach it? Practically nobody walks nowadays."

* * *

He: "Do you remember your old school friend, Sophy Raggles?"

She: Yes; the horrible fright, What of her?"

He: "Oh, nothing; only she is now my wife."

* * *

Wife wired from a Continental spa: "In four weeks I have reduced my weight by half: May I stay a little longer," Hubby replied: "Yes, stay another four weeks."

* * *

An Irish mother, asked whom she favoured, her husband or her son, replied, "My son, of course; shouldn't I think more of my own flesh and blood than of a strange man?"

* * *

"I hardly like to mention it," remarked the doctor, "but that cheque you gave me has come back;" and his quondam patient answered, "That's funny, doctor, so have my symptoms."

* * *

There was a young fellow named Sid.

Who kissed his girl's eye on the lid,

"Your aim is quite bad."

She said to the lad:

"You should practise a bit," and he did.

x x x

THE GRUMBLER

Even when they gave him his last supper the night before he was going to be hanged, he grumbled. He grumbled about his breakfast, and when he got on to the platform before they hanged him, he started to stamp all round it and said, "This d—thing isn't safe, either."

* * *

My wife said last night, "Let's leave this hotel. There is no privacy."

I said, "what do you mean, dear?"

"Why, last night when I came out of the bath, my eyes full of soap, I couldn't find towel, and a voice through the keyhole said, It is behind you, dear."

* * *

Examining the stocks in a bookshop one day, Rudyard Kipling asked the bookseller if a certain book was good.

"I don't know," was the reply. "I haven't read it."

"But surely you read the books you sell?" querried Kipling.

"Does a druggist take his own drugs?" was the convincing reply.

For The Week January 2nd 1977 To 1th8 January 1977

MESHA (ARIES)
Aswini Bharani
Krittika 1/4

FAVOURABLE period to start new ventures. Promotional possibilities are bright. You should try to implement your plans with in a poriod of three months. Financial position will improve. Family members will be cooperative. Partnership matters could be finalised. Health requires attention. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days 3rd & 4th.

★

VRISHABA (TAURUS)
Krittika 3/4 Rohini
Mrigashirsha 1/2

MIXED results are indicated. You should avoid legal complications. And also avoid friction with superiors. Frequent journeys are indicated. Problems relating to transport and communication are indicated. You should wait till the middle of this month to implement your plans. Financial position will improve but avoid speculative investments. Partnership matters should be handled properly to avoid complications. Favourable days 5th & 6th.

★

MITHUNA (GEMINI)
Mrigashirsha 1/2 Arudra
Punarvasu 3/4

MIXED results are indicated. Partnership matters should be finalised favourably. Financial position will improve. Speculative gains are indicated. You may have to undertake a long journey shortly. You should also try to develop new connections to improve your prospects. Family matters should be handled properly to avoid complications. Matters relating to children require attention. Favourable days 7th & 8th.

★

KATAKA (CANCER)
Punarvasu 1/4 Pushya
Ashlesha

YOU are passing through temporarily a difficult period. Problems are indicated in profession. Change of place is possible in the near future. Partnership matters should be handled properly to avoid legal complications. Financial position will improve, but avoid speculative investments. Matters relating to children require attention. Avoid friction with associates. And also avoid impulsive actions. Favourable days 3 & 6.

SIMHA (LEO)
Maka Purva Palguni
Uttara Palguni 1/4

FAVOURABLE period will last for another two months. You should make maximum efforts to implement your programmes before the end of February. Change of place is indicated. Financial position will improve. And speculative gains are also indicated. Partnership matters could be finalised favourably. Health requires attention. Matters relating to children should be handled properly to avoid complications Avoid additional responsibilities. Favourable days 3 & 4th,

★

KANYA (VIRGO)
Uttara Palguni 3/4 Hastha
Chitra 1/2

MIXED results are indicated. Improvement in profession is indicated. But avoid partnership deals. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid complications Family matters also require attention. Avoid journeys unless necessary. It will take another two months to solve your problems. Financial position will be satisfactory. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. Favourable days 5th & 6th.

★

THULA (LIBRA)
Chitra 1/2 Swathi
Visakha 3/4

FAVOURABLE period. You should make use of this opportunity to improve your prospects. Financial position will improve and speculative gains are indicated. Partnership matters could be finalised favourably. Promotional possibilities are bright. Avoid friction with family members You will be undertaking frequent short journeys. Favourable days 7th &8th.

VRISCHIKA (SCORPIO)
Vishakha 1/4 Anuradha
Jyeshtha

FAVOURABLE period to implement your plans. Property matters could be finalised. Financial position will improve. But avoid speculative investments. Family matters require attention. Matters relating to children should be handled properly to avoid complications. Promotional possibilities are bright. Avoid impulsive actions on 3rd & 4th.

★

DHANUS (SAGITTARIUS)
Mula Purva Ashadha
Uttara Ashadha 1/4

MIXED results are indicated Financial position will improve. Speculative gains are also indicated. Family matters could be finalised. Improvement in your business conditions are indicated. Avoid friction with associates. And also avoid legal complications. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. You should try to implement your plans within two months period. You should be prepared for unexpected developments on 5th & 6th.

★

MAKARA (CAPRICORNUS)
Uttara Ashadha 3/4
Shravana Dhanistha 1/2

FAVOURABLE period to implement your plans. You should make best use of this opportunity to improve your propects. Promotional possibilities are bright till the end of February. Businessmen should try to start new ventures. Property matters could be finalised favourably. Health will improve. Partnership matters should be handled properly to avoid legal complications. Financial position will improve. Family members will be cooperative. Favourable days 3rd & 4th.

GLOSSARY

Arudra	—திருவாதிரை
Pushya	—பூசம்
Ashlesha	—ஆயில்யம்
Purva Phalguni	—பூரம்
Uttara Phalguni	—உத்திரம்
Anuradha	—அனுஷம்
Jyeshtha	—கேட்டை
Purva Ashada	—பூராடம்
Uttara Ashada	—உத்திராடம்
Shravana	—திருவோணம்
Dhanistha	—அவிட்டம்
Satha Bhishag	—சதயம்
Purva Bhadrapada	—பூரட்டாதி
Uttara Bhadrapada	—உத்திரட்டாதி

KUMBHA (AQUARIUS)
Dhanishta 1/2 Sathabhishag
Purva Badrapada 3/4

MIXED results are indicated. Business prospects will improve. Financial position will not be satisfactory. Avoid speculative investments. Health will be well maintained. You are approaching favourable period within two months. You should be prepared to make necessary changes to make best use of this opportunity. Avoid friction with associates. Problems relating to partnership matters are indicated. You should be prepared to undertake a journey shortly. Favourable days 5th & 6th.

★

MEENA (PISCES)
Purva Badrapada 1/4
Uttara Badrapada Revati

FAVOURABLE period. Promotional opportunities will continue for some more time. Businessmen should make best use of this opportunity to improve their position. Financial position will improve. Family members will be cooperative. But matters relating to children should be handled properly to avoid complications later. You should try to settle important family matters and also try to stabilise financial position within a period of two months. Favourable days 7th & 8th.

Costly Dream House

The American dreamhouse—a standard abode for one family—has passed $ 50,000, the "New York Times" writes. The Federal Home Loan Bank Board has noted that the average price of a new home sold in the United States in September was $ 50,00. Ten years ago it cost slightly over $ 20,000, in 1971 the price was about $ 28,000 and last year it reached $ 39,200. The average selling price for a used home has jumped to $ 43,300. Hence the paper's conclusion: "The single family home is becoming increasingly unattainable for millions of middle-income families".

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

THE ORDER OF LENIN FOR L. I. BREZHNEV

At a glittering ceremony held at Kremlin on December 19, and attended by Soviet leaders and foreign guests, the highest award of the USSR—the Order of Lenin—and the Second "Gold Star" Medal of Hero of the Soviet Union were presented to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Leonid Brezhnev on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

The Awards were presented to Leonid Brezhnev for his outstanding services to the Communist Party and the Soviet State in communist construction, for his vigorous and fruitful activities to strengthen peace and the security of the peoples, for his big personal contribution to the cause of victory over the German-fascist invaders in the Great Patriotic War, to strengthening the economic and defence might of the Soviet Union.

Leonid Brezhnev, who already holds the title of Marshal, was also presented arms of honour bearing the USSR State emblem in gold for his outstanding services in strengthening the USSR's defences and perfecting the armed forces.

Presenting the awards, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Nikolai Podgorny said that Leonid Brezhnev's 70th birthday was not only an outstanding date in his life, but this is also a big event for the Party, the State, and for the entire Soviet people, who rightly regard him as their recognised leader.

Accepting the award, Leonid Brezhnev said: "I am proud that every single day of my life is inseparable from the deeds that comprise the life of our Communist Party, of our Soviet country. The trust of the Party, the trust of the people, has always been and continues to be supreme importance to me. And accepting the award—the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star of Hero—I realise with all my heart that they belong to the Party just as all my strength and all my life belong to it..."

* * *

JOINT COMMISSION ON TEXTBOOKS

At the recently-held 9th Session of the Soviet-Indian Joint Commission on Textbooks, questions recommended by the 8th Session of the Commission, such as the adaptation of Soviet textbooks for use in India, translation of Soviet textbooks and their publication, plans of bringing out Soviet textbooks and teaching aids in English and in the Indian languages by Soviet publishers etc, were discussed and a joint protocol has been signed.

Those who participated in the Session of the Joint Commission on the Soviet side were: N. Yegorov, USSR Deputy Minister of Higher and Specialised Secondary Education: M. Kondakov, Vice-President of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences; representatives of Soviet publishing houses and of the USSR Ministry of Publication.

The Indian side was represented by a delegation headed by K.N. Channa, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

The Soviet-Indian Joint Commission on textbooks was set up nearly 10 years ago, when the protocol was signed on Soviet assistance to India in the publication of new manuals for higher and secondary educational establishments. The Commission has done a great deal preparing for publication of a number of textbooks by Soviet authors as well as many books on science, technology and social sciences to be used in Indian educational institutions.

The present protocol certainly marks a new step in the promotion of cooperation between our two countries in science and education.

* * *

LASER PROBING CENTRE

A laser probing centre has been set up in the Central Aerological Observatory of the Main Board of the USSR Hydrometeorological service. The heart of the centre is ',Lidar," a laser radar.

Its beam directed to a certain point in the sky, is instantly piercing the atmosphere from its lower to upper layers. On its way, it is running into various aerosols, such as hard particles and tiny drops of water. Scattered and reflected after colliding with them, the attennared beam returns back to the Earth. According to the time of the beam's "travel" and its features, scientists determine the exact height and characteristics of the layer reflectgd. By investigating one layer after another researchers get a nexact description of the atmosphere.

Raw Materials From Dirty Rivers

KARLSRUHE (DaD)—One of the main pollution problems facing the world today is the high level of phosphates in rivers. These vital raw materials come from fertilizers, which are washed by rains into waterways. But now scientists at the West German nuclear research centre in Karlsruhe have begun working on ways of killing two birds with one stone—recycling phosphates from rivers, and thus cleaning the waters.

The team of fifteen researchers is carrying out work that could have worldwide significance. It is operating from a mobile laboratory in local waters, and the approximately 2,000 cubic metres of waste water produced at the nuclear research centre is being tested, with about one part in every thousand being cleaned for the recycling.

Phoshate recycling is a relatively simple process. The waste waters are filtered through aluminium oxide until the filter material is saturated. The phosphates thus obtained can be used as artificial fertilizers and in other processes. There are no waste products in this process, and the aluminium oxide can be used again and again, so the head of the research team regards this process as a money-saver. But, says Dr Siegfried Eberle, this process will only pay off when waters are highly polluted, such as in densely populated areas with over half a million inhabitants.

C.C.C.I's Service

International Council of Christian Churches was a religious organisation with a mission to serve the down trodden.

The Indian Unit of the C.C.C was formed in 1973. Its Vice-president Bro. J, Samuel explained the objectives and work of the Indian unit at a press get together recently.

Pastor J.D. Sigamoni explained how 15 tons of skimmed milk powder received from the International unit was distributed under a card system through schools, colleges, social organisations and orphanages to the needy.

Mr Valampuri John M.P. spoke of the service rendered by Christians to humanity.

Earlier Bro. R.R. Benjamin welcomed the gathering.

Cultural Tour

A Star Nite Art Festival is to be held in Singapore in January 1977.

On the invitation of the organiser of the Festival, Mr Anandan of International Film Exchange, Singapore, a troupe consisting of artistes of the Tamil film world will be participating in the Festival.

Notable among the participants are T.L Maharajan, son of the play-back artiste Tiruchi Loganathan and Murali, who was the music director for the film Nenjodu Nenjam,

The contingent will also perform in Kualalampur, Eppo, Penang, and Malakka,

BE INDIAN

BUY INDIAN

Kickbacks

Press reports say, South Korean intelligence agents are making "vigorous efforts" to influence the U.S. Congress to prevent a possible reduction in American support for the Seoul regime after the change of the Administration in Washington. The means they resort to are simple enough. Some Congressmen receive valuable gifts. Others have South Korean university degrees conferred honoris causa on them. Still others get envelopes with hundred-dollar bills. Customs officers are reported to have found one Seoul "mediator" in possession of a list of names of 90 Congressmen, and it is presumed that at least twenty of them have been given bribes, the overall sum adding up to $ 500, 000.

Sex Equality?

The sex discrimination law passed in Britain last year confirmed women's equaltiy in so far as employment and remuneration were concerned. How is it abided by? The answer to this question is given in a survey of forty major companies in the private sector by the Equal Pay and Opportunities Camaign. And it is hardly comporting: very many firms do not comply with the law and prefer to engage men. According to official statistics, women are still being paid a third less than men.

Tap-Water Fish

A woman has complained to the city utilities board in Knoxville (Tennesee, U.S.A.) that a fish dropped out of the fauce into her bathtub. "Impossible," said the utility general manager, adding that there were too many filters through which the water taken from the Tennessee River passed before reaching the consumer. But the fact remains, The fish was slightly over two contimentres long and, the complainant said, was "quite dead".

From page 1

Madurai University...

effecting an improvement of extent modes and structures, institutions and systems as well as for forging fresh alternatives to them. This quest for practical alternatives may be deemed to be part of an adventure in the direction of innovation.

INTEGRATED SYSTEM NEEDED

Traditionally education was envisaged as a time-bound programme both in the east and the west. It was considered possible to impart all the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed through education over a specified period of time.

The concept of life-long education has now been evolved to help people constantly renew themselves through education processes. In fact this has now come to be regarded as the "keystone of the learning society".

Education is being now liberated from a cloistered existence. As Prof. Nural Hasan has said "The present day education has broadly been a single-point entry, sequential, full-time system of institutional instruction and it is essential to transform it into a new system in which there would be opportunities for multiple lateral entries at several points and in which all the three channels of instruction-full-time, part-time and self-study would be integrated in an appropriate fashion and would have equal status".

RECURRENT EDUCATION

Education whether formal or non-formal should be available to any person who may choose his path without any impediment, and learn at his own pace under a variety of circumstances and conditions moving from closed prescriptive systems to open non-prescriptive ones. In other words this would mean the introduction of what is called 'Recurrent Education' which benefit all those who wish to move horizontally and vertically within an overall open education system entering freely at various stages and leaving at different points. Students may pursue higher studies without having previously gone through a complete course of formal schooling. Furthermore there should be no disqualification on grounds of interrupted studies, especially at the University level. The proposition should be accepted that any one can move between one educational circuit and another even during one course.

REPORT

It was in October last that I had the unique opportunity of visiting the open University in Milton-Keynes, Buckinghamshire, fortyfive miles Northwest of London. It is on the basis of an evaluative study of the avowed objects and modalities experiments and and experience of the open University in the United Kingdom that Madurai University has recently accepted the proposal of its Institute of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education offering the B. A./B. Sc. degree course to all adults who are 25 and above, notwithstanding their possessing no previous academic qualification. In the light of a note that I placed before the Syndicate spelling out my suggestions for experimenting with the open University concept, making use of resources available in the existing Institute of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education, a sub-committee of the Syndicate studied the various aspects of the proposal and came out with its broad recommendations for the introduction of an integrated degree programme somewhat patterned on what the open University in the United Kingdom offers. These recommendations, have been accepted by the Academic Council and the Senate of University. The details of the scheme are now being most carefully worked out in consultation with the various boards of studies, expert committees, principals of affiliated Colleges and the A. I. R. Madras before its finalisation and early implementation by the beginning of 1977.

FOR ADULT LEARNERS

The proposed B. A./B. Sc. degree course is designed for adult learners aged 25 and above and resident in India. There will be a three-month trial period to give a chance to applicants to see whether they can stand the strain of undergoing the course.

The course is to be an integrated Five-Year B. A./B. Sc., Degree course, offered at four levels-foundation, second, third and fourth. The foundation course will be of 2 years' duration and must be taken by all who come without any previous academic qualification. Those applicants who have successfully completed a period of study at a higher educational level elsewhere will be given appropriate credit exemptions. The foundation course will be a graded one, aimed at helping the student to attain the present school final level at the end of the first year with a study of all the basic subjects viz, languages including English, Mathematics, Physical and Biological Science, Humanities etc. In the second year provision will be made for a credit combination of Science, Mathematics and Humanities Courses leading to the present P. U. C. level. At the same time, the basic objective of the foundation course will be to orient the candidates to the development of the essential skills of doing and learning.

After the foundation level, students will be offered such combinations of courses as are suitably designed for enabling them to take their degree after going through the remaining levels.

UNIQUE FEATURES

Among a variety of distance-teaching methods proposed to be adopted, correspondence tuition, radio broadcasts, tutorials and discussions at local study centres, practical experiments and tutor-marked response sheets will figure as the unique features of the whole system. In this context I may say that the present Institute of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education in the University has, in the last five years, very largely succeeded in effectively organising its Correspondence Tution supplemented by contact classes and evaluation of response sheets. In the proposed Open University Courses the Correspondence material will no doubt be the most important component and what is more, will be integrated with reading materials, broadcasts and assignments.

Madurai University has over 100 colleges affiliated to it and at least 75 per cent of them have suitable accommodation, fairly well-equipped laboratories and good libraries. In these colleges local study centres are proposed to be set up and the students of the open University Courses can come there in the evenings when the colleges do not have their regular sessions and make use of the laboratories and libraries there. Besides, part-time tutors will be recruited from the teaching staff of these colleges and they will give personal guidance to the students, conduct face-to-face tutorials, organise discussion groups, field trips and evaluate the response sheets.

Study centres will also offer an opportunity for students to discuss their work with one another.

The above experiment of initiating a new non-formal educational programme based on the Open University pattern in a way is to be tried out in the light of the experience already gained by the Institute of Correspondence Course in running several courses in the last five years.

CONTACT SEMINARS

Since its inception the Institute has been serving the needs of those seeking higher education. The number of students enrolled has been increasing notably from year to year and to-day it stands at 30,000. Various courses including 5 post graduate courses cater to the needs of students.

Contact seminars, three times a year, are arranged in almost all the district headquarters. The Seminars are arranged on Saturdays and Sundays. They enable the students to meet the teachers and have their doubts clarified. Generally, about 60% of the students are attending these seminars, which help the teachers to get the feedback on the lessons suitably.

An important feature of the Madurai University Correspondence Course is that it has started broadcasting talks on various subjects from this year. At present all the papers of the B.A. and B. Com. courses are covered The talks are Broadcast from Monday to Friday every week from 7.25 A.M. to 7.45 A.M. It is hoped that the T.V. will also come to the aid of the Institute in due course.

Of course there may be initial bottlenecks and impediments to over come while implementing the proposed Open University programme. There may be prophets of gloom and despair to whom non-institutionalised forms of education may be unpalatable and unwelcome. But the resentful attitudes of such people need not deter us from breaking new ground and giving a vibrant thrust to our new educational pursuits.

From Page 2

sed the sea effortlessly. This only brings out the significance of true devotion"

Religions may differ, favourite deities may vary. But everyman should have complete faith in his religion and its doctrines. He should also have true devotion. Then alone man can have peace and prosperity. The essence of all religions is one and the same. They will be happy if they realise the mystery of the creation and behave accordingly. This is certain.

PHILOSOPHY OF SAI BABA

Sri Sai Baba ceaselessly worworked throughout his life to ensure peace and happiness to those who were beset with sorrows and sufferings and several problems. He tried to draw them to his side. He also tried to console them by showering His grace. All this enabled them to promote their devotion to God. Thus Baba helped them when He was in flesh and blood. Even after attaining the Mahasamadhi, Sri Sai Baba has been helping his devotees in the same measure in different was.

The only magic

Hard work

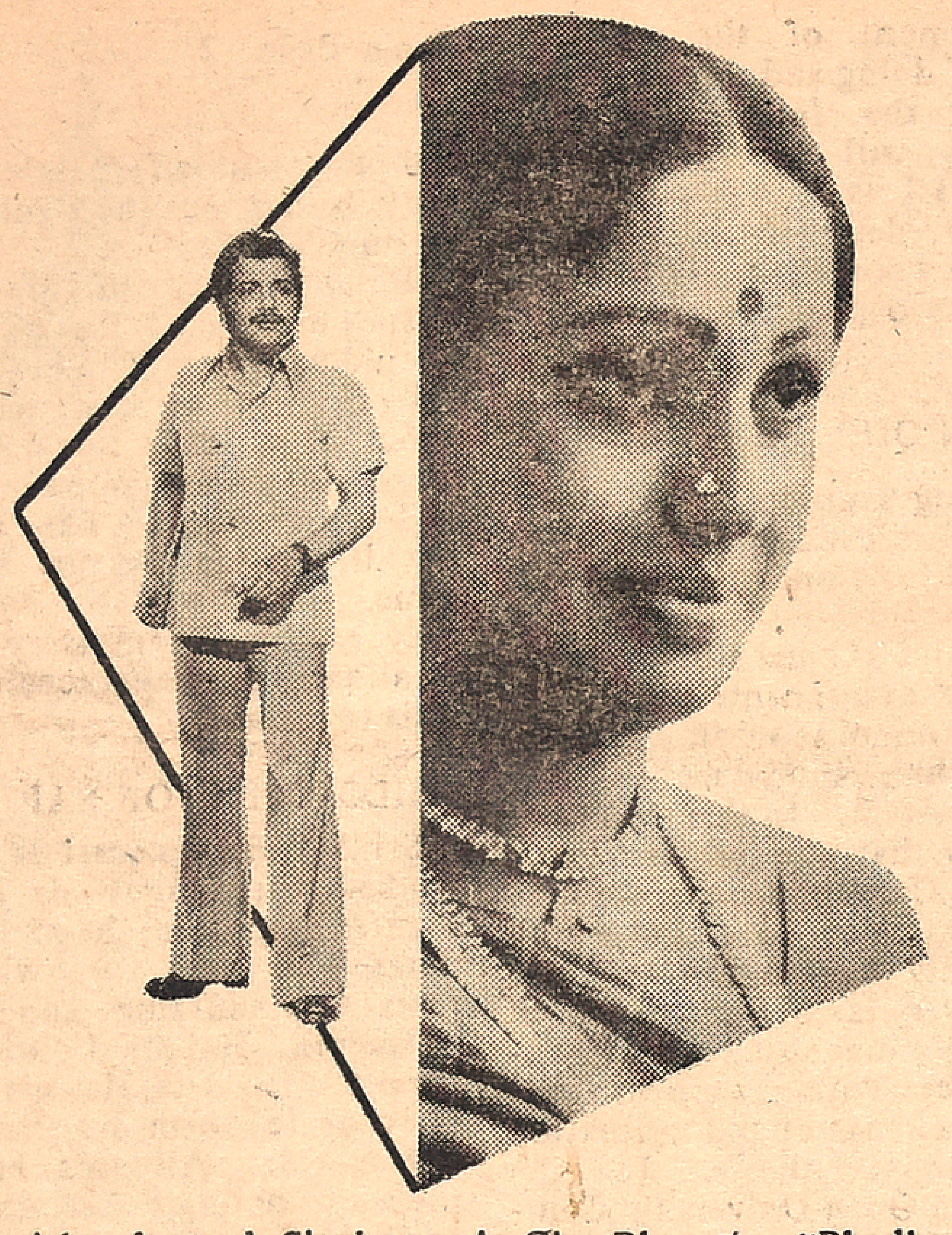
Clear vision

Iron will

Strictest

Discipline

—INDIRA GANDHI



Ranichandra and Sivakumar in Cine Bharat's "Bhadhrakali" now running all over the South to full houses. It is directed by A. C. Tirulokachander.

Circus Comes to Madras

National Circus have come to Madras to provide an enjoyable treat to the kids enjoying a vacation for Christmas and New Year. They are having their shows at the South Indian Atheletic Association grounds behind Moore Market.

The circus provides fun and frolic, excitement and thrill.

On an average twentyfive items are included in a show in which humans and animals participate.

The star attraction of the circus is the huge hippoptomus.

The motorcycle and motor car crossing each other in mid-air is thrilling to watch.

The trepeez show in the dark is another awe-inspiring item on the schedule.

There are a lot of acrobatic feats.

About half a dozen clowns keep the audience roaring with laughter.

A bear drives into the arena a mini train with a contingent of passengers consisting of monkeys, dears, and dogs.

A group of horses perfom dancing to the band music.

A herd of elephants come in and puts a show. They play, dance to tunes and ev n perform on musical intruments.

Tigers and Lions do their part with their custom ry protests.

Running a circus show is an arduous task. The circus crew consists of about 350 persons—Male and female artistes and other workmen.

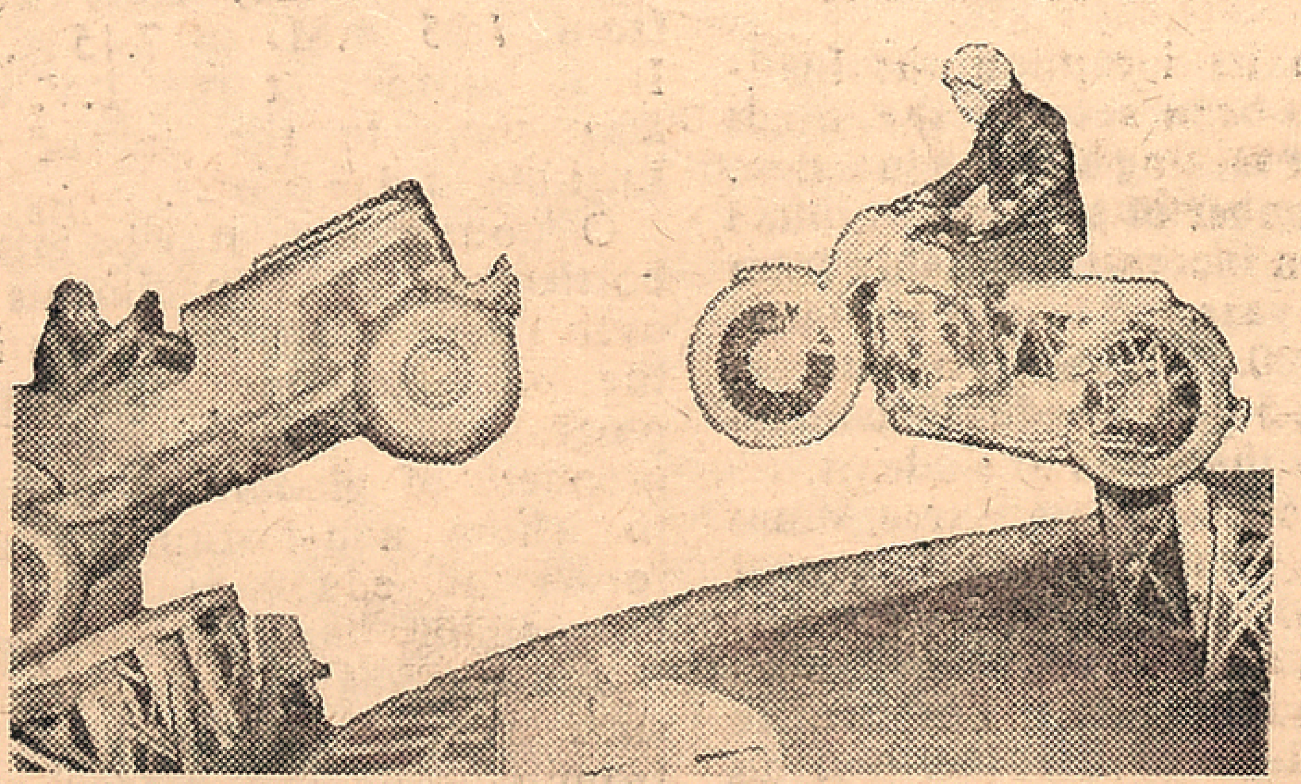
The National has about 70 animals including elephants, lions, tigers, camels, horses and a hippopotumus.

On an average about Rs 8000 has to be spent for the upkeep, whether a show is there or not.

Mr. P.K. Narayanan, proprietor of the National Circus, explained the difficulties faced by them. He wants the Governments, State and Centre, to come forward and help conduct circus shows. He wants circuses also included in the international cultural exchange programmes.

He wants the Government to liberalise rules for importing rare species of animals to meet the needs of circuses.

According to him Indian circus is rated very high everyhere.



Sujatha and Jaishankar in Suryalaya's "Aasai Manaivi".

Hirudayam Oru Kshetram

Neela Productions' "Hirudayam Oru Kshetram" (Malayalam, Colour) proves to be a satisfying movie.

It is based on C. V. Sridhar's successful film in Tamil "Nenjil Oor Aalayam". Nagavalli has written the dialogues for the Malayalam version.

The story revolves round the three principal cha acters Dr. Ramesh, Hari and Prema.

Hari a cancer patient and his wife Prema comes to Dr. Ramesh, a specialist in cancer treatment. The meeting gives a jolt to Prema and Ramesh. For they were lovers once, when they were students. Ramesh gives a word that he would cure Hari all at all costs. He saves Hari at the cost of his own life.

Madhu as Dr. Ramesh, Raghavan as Hari and Srividyaas Prema have given memorable performances Baby Sumathi is good.

P. Subramaniam has directed the film well.

Photography by N. A. Thara is neat and good.

Music is by Devarajan.

The film is on show at Little Anand in Madras.

ROJAVIN RAJA

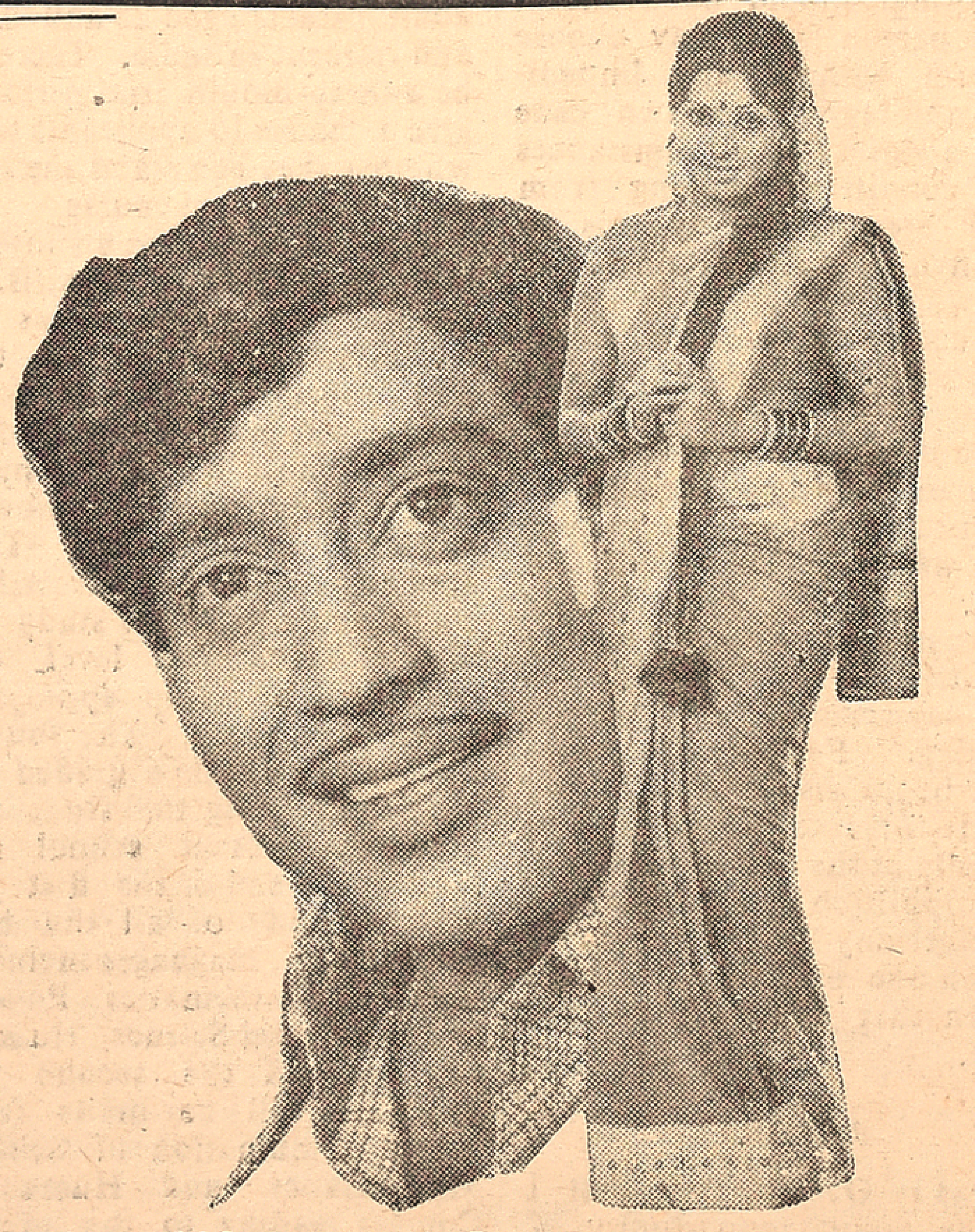
When you come out of the theatre after witnessing the film "Rojavin Raja' (Tamil, Colour) you feel as if you have seen it many times earlier.

Excellent acting by Sivaji Ganesan and Vanisri could not prevent such an impression.

The photography is good, bringing out the colour and depth of the lavish settings.

The comic sequences provided by the trio—Cho, V. K. Ramaswamy and Manorama–are stale.

The film is directed by K, Vijayan for producer N. V. Ramasami.



Sripriya and Muthuraman in Ravi Combines' latest Tamil film "Punniyam Seithaval" directed by "Iyakkunar Thilagam" K. S. Gopalakrishnan

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